

PUBLIC NOTICE

File Number: NRS 15.103

Pursuant to Chapter 0400-4-7 of the Department's rules, the proposed activity described below has been submitted for approval under an Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit and §401 Water Quality Certification. This notice is intended to inform interested parties of this permit application and to ask for comments and information necessary to determine possible impacts to water quality. No decision has been made whether to issue or deny this application.

APPLICANT: Tennessee Department of Transportation

Suite 900, James K. Polk Building

505 Deadrick Street Nashville, TN 37243

(615) 741-3655

LOCATION: SR 115 (US 129, Alcoa Hwy), from north of Maloney Road to Woodson Drive

Blount/Knox County

STR-1 Latitude: 35.9047, Longitude -83.9550 STR-2 Latitude: 35.9096, Longitude -83.9548

STR-3/SPR-2 Latitude: 35.9163, Longitude -83.9556 STR-6/SPR-3 Latitude: 35.9165, Longitude -83.9557 STR-8/SPR-6 Latitude: 35.9167, Longitude -83.9556 STR 7/SPR-5 Latitude: 35.9204, Longitude -83.9570 STR 4/SPR-4 Latitude: 35.9204, Longitude -83.9574

STR 5 Latitude: 35.9248, Longitude -83.9544

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Tennessee Department of Transportation is proposing to improve the section of SR 115 from north of Maloney Road to Woodson Drive by converting the section to full access control, adding travel lanes, and adding auxiliary lanes separated from the travel lanes by a barrier wall resulting in 4,123 linear feet of stream impacts. No wetlands will be impacted.

The loss of resource value will be mitigated in-system to minimize degradation to below de minimis through the purchase of 5,048 credits from the Tennessee Stream Mitigation Program.

IMPACTS:

STR-1 (Misc. Tribs to Fort Loudoun) – 235 linear feet of stream encapsulation.

<u>STR-2 (Misc. Tribs to Fort Loudoun)</u> – 132 linear feet of stream relocation and 105 linear feet stream encapsulation

<u>STR-3/SPR-2 (Misc. Tribs to Fort Loudoun)</u> – 2,890 linear feet of encapsulation, 61 linear feet of stream loss, and 53 linear feet of rip-rap lined channel

STR 6/SPR-3 (Misc. Tribs to Fort Loudoun) – 25 linear feet of encapsulation

<u>STR 8/SPR-6 (Misc. Tribs to Fort Loudoun)</u> – 18 linear feet of encapsulation and 50 linear feet of stream loss

<u>STR 7/SPR-5 (Misc. Tribs to Fort Loudoun)</u> – 15 linear feet of encapsulation and 79 linear feet of stream loss

STR 4/SPR-4 (Misc. Tribs to Fort Loudoun) – 166 linear feet of encapsulation

<u>STR 5 (Misc. Tribs to Fort Loudoun)</u> – 290 linear feet of encapsulation and 4 linear feet of stream loss.

DEGRADATION: In accordance with the Tennessee Antidegradation Statement (Rule 0400-40-03-.06), the division has determined that the proposed activities will result in degradation to water quality that will be brought below the level of de minimis through in-system mitigation.

WATERSHED / WATERBODY DESCRIPTION: The proposed impacts are in the Fort Loudoun Lake Watershed includes parts of Blount, Knox, Loudon and Sevier counties. It is approximately 638 square miles and empties to the Tennessee River. For more information on this watershed please visit:

http://www.tn.gov/environment/water/watersheds/fort-loudoun-lake.shtml

Stream Name / ID #: Misc. Tribs to Fort Loudoun (TN06010201020T_0999)

Ecoregion: 67f Southern Limestone/Dolomite Valleys and Low Rolling Hills

Stream Dimension Ranges: Channel bottom width: 1 inch -500 feet

Chanel top width: 3 - 600 feet Water depth: 0 - 16 feet + Bank slope ratio: <1:1 to >4:1 Stream gradient: <2% - 5%

Substrates: Cobble, gravel, sand, clay, silt, bedrock, woody debris, concrete flume

Designated UseUse SupportFish and aquatic lifenot assessedRecreationnot assessedIndustrial water supplynot assessedIrrigationnot assessedLivestock watering & wildlifenot assessed

Assessment Date: N/A

PERMIT COORDINATOR: Caitlin Elam

FACTORS CONSIDERED: In deciding whether to issue or deny a permit, the department will consider all comments of record and the requirements of applicable federal and state laws. In making this decision, a determination will be made regarding the lost value of the resource compared to the value of any proposed mitigation. The department shall consider practicable alternatives to the alteration. The department shall also consider loss of waters or habitat, diminishment in biological diversity, cumulative or secondary impacts to the water resource, and adverse impact to unique, high quality, or impaired waters.

COMMENTING: Persons wishing to comment on the proposal are invited to submit written comments to the department. Written comments must be received within **thirty days of the date that this notice is posted**. Comments will become part of the record and will be considered in the final decision. The applicant's name and permit number should be referenced. Send all written comments to the department's address listed below and to the attention of the permit coordinator.

PUBLIC HEARING: Interested persons may request in writing that the department hold a public hearing on this application. The request must be filed within the comment period, indicate the interest of the person requesting it, the reasons that the hearing is warranted, and the water quality issues being raised. When there is sufficient public interest in water quality issues, the department will hold a public hearing. Send all public hearing request to the department's address listed below and to the attention of the permit coordinator.

APPEAL: A permit appeal may be filed, pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 69-3-105(i) and Rule 0400-40-05, by the permit applicant or by any aggrieved person who participated in the public comment period announced by this notice. This petition must be filed within THIRTY (30) DAYS after public notice of the issuance of the permit. The petition must specify what provisions are being appealed and the basis for the appeal. It should be addressed to the technical secretary of the Tennessee Board of Water Quality, Oil and Gas at the following address: Tisha Calabrese Benton, Director, Division of Water Resources, William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower, 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave, 11th floor, Nashville, TN 37243. Any hearing would be in accordance with T.C.A. §69-3-110 and 4-5-301 et seq.

FILE REVIEW: The permit application, supporting documentation including detailed plans and maps, and related comments are available at the department's address (listed below) for review and/or copying.

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation Division of Water Resources, Natural Resources Unit William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 11th Floor Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Location

Impacts